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many advocates in proportion to their numbers as those views will find in England among the same classes, since in all of the Colonies and dependencies a large part of the upper classes look on the Colonies as only a temporary place of residence, or derive some personal advantage from the continuance of the present Colonial relation, or "like to be partners in a strong firm," to adopt a phrase sometimes used by the Canadians when writing or speaking on this subject. No one, however, can fail to be struck by the ability with which Mr. Smith has discussed this important question. In his frequent references to our country, he shows the same soundness of judgment and the same attachment to free institutions which he exhibits in every other part of the book.

10. — *Hospital Transports: a Memoir of the Embarkation of the Sick and Wounded from the Peninsula of Virginia in the Summer of 1862. Compiled and Published at the Request of the Sanitary Commission.* Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1863. 16mo. pp. 167.

THERE is no organization in this country which has secured for itself a greater degree of confidence and sympathy throughout the Northern States, or which has drawn into its service a larger number of devoted and zealous supporters, than the United States Sanitary Commission. Persons of both sexes and of every age, of all our religious denominations and of every walk in life, of large and of small means, and of both the great political parties into which the country has again become divided, have esteemed it a privilege to aid by their time, their money, and the labor of their hands, in the work undertaken by it. Even those who were strongly of opinion that this work ought to be done by the government, instead of being left to the uncertain operation of private charity, and that the administration should be held to a strict responsibility for its proper performance, have not been backward in giving to the Commission the support necessary to enable it to discharge its various functions in an efficient and satisfactory manner. The trust thus reposed in it has not been misplaced. Occasional reports of its operations in a single department, during a single campaign, or on a single battle-field, have made known to the country in some degree the nature and extent of its services in alleviating the horrors of war; and the value of these services has been still further attested by the concurrent testimony of all who have made special investigation of the subject. Additional evidence to the same effect is furnished by the little volume named above. It is composed for the most part of extracts from the confidential and familiar reports of the Secretary, Mr.

Frederick Law Olmsted, to the President of the Commission during the Peninsular Campaign, and of extracts from the private letters of another gentleman and six ladies who were in the service of the Commission during the same period. These letters cover about two months, from the evacuation of Yorktown by the Rebel forces to the withdrawal of our army stores from White-House, and were written without any thought of publication. They have been selected and arranged for the press, under the authority of the Commission, by one of the managers of the "Woman's Central Army Relief Association of New York." As we might naturally expect, the extracts from Mr. Olmsted's communications fill the greater part of the volume, — the other extracts being used only as connecting links to bind the whole into a consecutive narrative. They tell a simple and deeply interesting story of modest and faithful services in diminishing the sufferings of the sick, wounded, and dying soldiers in that memorable campaign, and show in the most conclusive manner how admirably the operations of this noble charity have been conducted. From the necessities of the case, the individual writer is constantly brought forward as a prominent actor in the scenes described; but, as has been well remarked, there is none of that parade of self-devotion and self-sacrifice which is too often seen in those who are engaged in charitable labors. Each of the writers seems to have felt that he or she was sufficiently rewarded for every weary hour of day or night toil by the consciousness that thus many lives were saved, and many dying pillows made easier.

11. — *The Amber Gods, and Other Stories.* By HARRIET ELIZABETH PRESCOTT. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1863. 16mo. pp. 432.

THE seven stories comprised in this volume have already been published in the pages of the "Atlantic Monthly," where they attracted much notice; but in this reprint they are likely to find many new readers, and in their collected form they demand a somewhat more searching criticism than they received when first published. The early productions of a writer, who has at once achieved so large a popularity as Miss Prescott has already won, can never be matters of indifference to any one who is interested in the growth of American literature, and it is well to consider what are their real merits and defects, and what is the promise which they reveal. In analyzing the impressions derived from a careful reading of Miss Prescott's stories, we suppose that it will be generally admitted that her popularity is due in the first place to the united strength and brilliancy of her descriptions. In